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RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF JERRY LEE LOUPEE

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of my friend, Mr. Jerry Lee Loupee, who passed away on May 28 at the age of 83.

During my time being involved in politics in Chatham County, I got to know Jerry Loupee. I got to know him and his wife, Bonnie, because they were stalwarts. They were strong supporters of the Republican Party.

Jerry was an integral part of the Skidaway Island Republican Club, the Chatham County Republican Party, and many charitable organizations around the world, always striving to make the world a better place to live.

Jerry said: "If you teach your children compassion, you have done half the job of raising them right."

At home, he served to protect Georgia through the Georgia State Defense Force. Abroad, he worked for 31 years for Hercules Inc. in Pakistan, Taiwan, and Thailand, before coming back to his home in Savannah.

Recently, Jerry and Bonnie had moved back to their home in Iowa. My wife, Amy, and I had the opportunity to visit with them before they moved. I am glad we had that final opportunity to be with Jerry.

Bonnie, please know that we love you very much, and we share with you in the celebration of Jerry's life. Jerry was a true friend to many in Savannah and around the world, and he truly will be missed.

NORTH KOREA SUMMIT

(Ms. GABBARD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, just 6 months ago, my constituents and people all across Hawaii received a harrowing alert that came across their cell phones saying that a ballistic missile was incoming and to take cover immediately.

It turned out to be a false alarm, but the terror that my family, friends, people all across the State of Hawaii experienced was very real, shining a light on the stark reality and the seriousness of the North Korean nuclear threat that hangs over them and this country.

The agreement that came from the U.S.-North Korea summit that just concluded late last night, committing North Korea to complete denuclearization, is a first step, but there is far more work to be done. We have to be vigilant to make sure that the details of this deal ensure complete, verifiable, irreversible denuclearization of North Korea.

You hear talking heads on TV talking about who put up more points on the scoreboard, missing the seriousness and the actual point of what we are dealing with, that this is not a game. There are lives at stake.

In the interest of peace and humanity, we should all be rallying around our country's success and continuing to pursue diplomacy and peace to remove this threat and denuclearize North Korea.

HONORING THE VEGAS GOLDEN KNIGHTS

(Mr. KIHUEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIHUEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Vegas Golden Knights for their monumental accomplishments this past season.

Mr. Speaker, who knew there would ever be a winning hockey team in the desert? Never underestimate the people of Las Vegas and the State of Nevada.

The story of the Vegas Golden Knights is truly inspiring and symbolic of the strength and perseverance and unity in the Las Vegas community.

Following the October 1 shooting, a unique bond was created between Nevadans and the Golden Knights that helped mend a city that was torn apart by a devastating massacre. The community rallied around a hockey team made up of players from teams around the country. They called them the "Golden Misfits."

These players fostered relationships that led to a magical season that will never ever be forgotten. The Golden Knights set an NHL record for an expansion team with 51 wins, along with a trip to the Stanley Cup finals.

I would like to congratulate and thank the owners, the players, the coaches, and the fans, as well as the Washington Capitals on their first Stanley Cup championship.

Mr. Speaker, Las Vegas and the Golden Knights will always be Vegas born, Vegas strong. Go Knights go.

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2-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF PULSE NIGHTCLUB SHOOTING

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BACON). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2017, the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. DEMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mrs. DEMINGS. Mr. Speaker, today marks 2 years since the Pulse shooting. Tonight, my colleague Congressman SOTO and I stand on the floor of the United States House of Representatives to honor and remember the victims of that horrible night.

The Pulse attack was the second worst mass shooting marring American history, the worst terrorist attack on U.S. soil since 9/11, and the worst attack against the LGBTQ population in our history.

This evening, in our hometown of Orlando, thousands of people are gathered, like they were 1 year ago and 1 year after that. They gather to mourn, to honor, and to pay tribute to the 49 lives we lost on June 12, 2016, just as we do here tonight.

Mr. Speaker, I wish I could be there with my friends, neighbors, and loved ones in Orlando, but I felt it was important to be here, fulfilling our duty as Members of Congress. We stand here tonight on the floor of the House of Representatives so that the world will not forget the lives we lost in the Pulse nightclub shooting.

This month, we are celebrating Pride Month. June 1 was Gun Violence Awareness Day. For the men and women at Pulse 2 years ago, the nightclub was a refuge. It was a haven for our LGBTQ community and their friends; and particularly, it was Latin Night, and they gathered to celebrate. It was a place where, my bishop likes to say, they were there for a late night fellowship.

This is what I want to emphasize. The victims at Pulse, like every other mass shooting, were not in the wrong place at the wrong time. They were living their lives, taking refuge in song, dance, joy, and celebrating their common humanity at a time when the common humanity of LGBTQ Americans was not, and it is still not, universally recognized in our country.

It was supposed to be, Mr. Speaker, like any other Saturday night for the men and women inside the Pulse nightclub. It was about 2:02 a.m., when everyone was closing their tabs for the night and about to head home. That is when an ISIS-inspired gunman walked into the club with an assault rifle and a handgun. Within a few minutes, he killed 49 people and wounded 53 others.

The innocent men and women in the club didn't stand a chance against the gunman. We will return to that point later. The fact is that the weapons available to this gunman made his attack, in many instances, as bad as a battlefield.

Orlando lost 49 lives that night; we lost 49 lives that night. Many others have had their lives changed forever. But after the attack, we saw our community come together. We donated blood together. We raised money together, and we mourned and grieved together. Mr. Speaker, tonight we continue to mourn, and we continue to grieve.